

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 03852 271027Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGRE-00
CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /157 W

-----051741 271803Z/46

R 270847Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5913
USDOC WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS RABAT 3852

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MO
SUBJ: NEW MOROCCAN RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS, PART II: GOM LISTS
IMPORTED PRODUCTS TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM UNLICENSED TO LICENSED
STATUS

REF: (A) STATE 3334; (B) RABAT 3763; (C) CASABLANCA 983

1. ON JUNE 21, 1978, THE GOM MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY ANNOUNCED MODIFICATIONS IN THE NATIONAL
IMPORT REGIME WHICH TRANSFERRED 125 PRODUCTS FOR WHICH
LINCENSES WERE NOT PREVIOUSLY REQUIRED (LIST A) TO LICENSED
STATUS (LIST B). THIS IS THE SECOND IN A SERIES OF GOM
MEASURES DESIGNED TO IMPLEMENT KING HASSAN'S DIRECTIVE TO
REDUCE IMPORTS BY 20 PERCENT DURING THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED
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THREE-YEAR PLAN (REF B). THE FIRST GOM IMPORT
MEASURE, I.E., TRANSFER OF 190 FREELY IMPORTED PRODUCTS
(LIST A) TO PROHIBITED STATUS (LIST C) WAS REPORTED IN
REF B. AN ADDITIONAL GOM MEASURE, WHICH REQUIRED PRIOR
IMPORT DEPOSITS FOR MOST IMPORTS, WAS REPORTED IN REF
C. EMBASSY NOW IN PROCESS OF GATHERING LOCAL REACTIONS
TO ALL NEW IMPORT RESTRICTION MEASURES. DETAILED

ANALYSIS OF OVERALL IMPACT AND IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S.,
TO FOLLOW SEPTEL.

2. THE SUBJECT MEASURE PLACES IN LICENSED STATUS 125
PRODUCT GROUPS WITH A TOTAL VALUE (CY 1976) OF
APPROXIMATELY 2.88 BILLION DH (APPROXIMATELY US \$645
MILLION). THESE PRODUCTS, CONSISTING MAINLY OF
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY, METAL AND PLASTIC MATERIALS,
VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES,
AMOUNT TO A VALUE OF 25 PER CENT OF TOTAL 1976 IMPORTS
AND 48 PER CENT OF THE 1976 TRADE DEFICIT. DESCRIPTION
AND BTN OF THESE PRODUCTS, AS WELL AS OF NEWLY
PROHIBITED IMPORTS MENTIONED REF B, FOLLOW SEPAIR.

3. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET OBTAINED DEFINITIVE GOM
CLARIFICATION OF APPLICATION LICENSING MECHANISM
FOR NEW MEASURE. FORMERLY, LICENSES WERE ASSIGNED TO
IMPORTERS ON THE BASIS OF A RATHER FLEXIBLE CALCULATION
FOR CURRENT DOMESTIC REQUIREMENT AND THE IMPORTER'S
TRADITIONAL MARKET SHARE.

4. U.S. IMPORTS SUBJECT TO THIS ARE RELATIVELY MODEST
AND AMOUNT TO APPROXIMATELY 142.9 MILLION DH
(APPROXIMATELY US \$32 MILLION) OR 14.4 PER CENT OF
MOROCCAN IMPORTS FROM U.S. THE MOST AFFECTED U.S.
PRODUCTS ARE INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT,
ESPECIALLY: INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES (US \$1.57 MILLION;
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TURBINES AND HYDRAULIC MACHINES (US \$3.3 MILLION); PUMPS,
COMPRESSORS AND FANS (US \$3.2 MILLION); EQUIPMENT FOR BITTLING,
WEIGHING AND PACKAGING AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY (US \$10.6
MILLION); EQUIPMENT FOR METAL WORKING, PROCESSING STONES, WOOD
AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (US \$6.7 MILLION); RAILROAD VEHICLES AND
NON-ELECTRIC SIGNALING EQUIPMENT (US \$2.4 MILLION). ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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